



January 18, 2026

## We Gather Together

Prelude Sherry Steele

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Valerie Oden

Introit *Behold, Behold, I Make All Things New* MV 115

Call to Worship Holly Ruryk, Lay Leader

One: We gather as people on the move, between what has been and what is becoming.

**All:** We come with open hearts, trusting that we are not alone on the way.

One: Here, courage rises not from certainty, but from the promise of God's presence.

**All: We worship the One who walks with us, making a way through every threshold.**

Opening Prayer (Unison)

**God ever faithful,  
we come today standing in the in-between –  
between what has been and what is still unfolding.**

**When the way forward feels unclear,  
steady our hearts and strengthen our steps.**

**Remind us that we are not alone,  
that you are present even in uncertainty,  
and that your grace meets us on the path as we walk.  
Amen.**

\*Opening Hymn *Bless Now O God the Journey* VU 633  
(Tune: VU 421)

Children's Time Alec Gallant

*Children are invited forward for a special time.*

\*Children's Hymn *Jump for Joy* MV 48

*After this hymn, children and youth (K-12) are invited downstairs. There is a Family Room behind the piano for wee ones where the service can be seen and heard and a volunteer will assist you.*

## We Listen for the Spirit Stirring

Scriptures Psalm 40 VU 764  
Exodus 14: 10-16; 21-23; 26-29

Anthem

Reflection Sacred Thresholds 3: Between the Waters Rev. V. Oden

\*Hymn of Response *Great is thy Faithfulness* VU 288

## We Share in Prayer

Sharing our Prayers of Joy and Concern

Prayer Hymn *As the Deer (Verse 1)* VU 766

Silent Prayer / Pastoral Prayer / The Lord's Prayer VU 921

*"Our Creator" is an inclusive way of saying "Our Father" if you wish it.*

## We Go Forth to Serve

Offering our Gifts

*Offering plates can be found in the narthex. Electronic gifts are welcome by e-transfer to [contactus@riverbendunited.org](mailto:contactus@riverbendunited.org) or on the church website. We give in gratitude for God's grace and in hope that peace may spread to all.*

\*Closing Hymn *Sent Forth by God's Blessing* VU 481

\*Benediction

\*Musical Response    *The River is a Healer (Chorus only)*    TLUS 11  
*Choir first, then congregation twice*

Postlude    Sherry Steele

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*\*denotes you are invited to stand as you are able and inclined*

“**VU**” refers to the red hardback hymnal *Voices United*

“**MV**” refers to the spiral bound songbook *More Voices*

“**TLUS**” refers to the new United Church Hymnal called *Then Let U Sing*

**Welcome to Riverbend United Church!**

If you are new with us, we'd love to meet you.  
Feel free to introduce yourself to your neighbour in the pew,  
and/or fill out a Welcome Card in the narthex (foyer).

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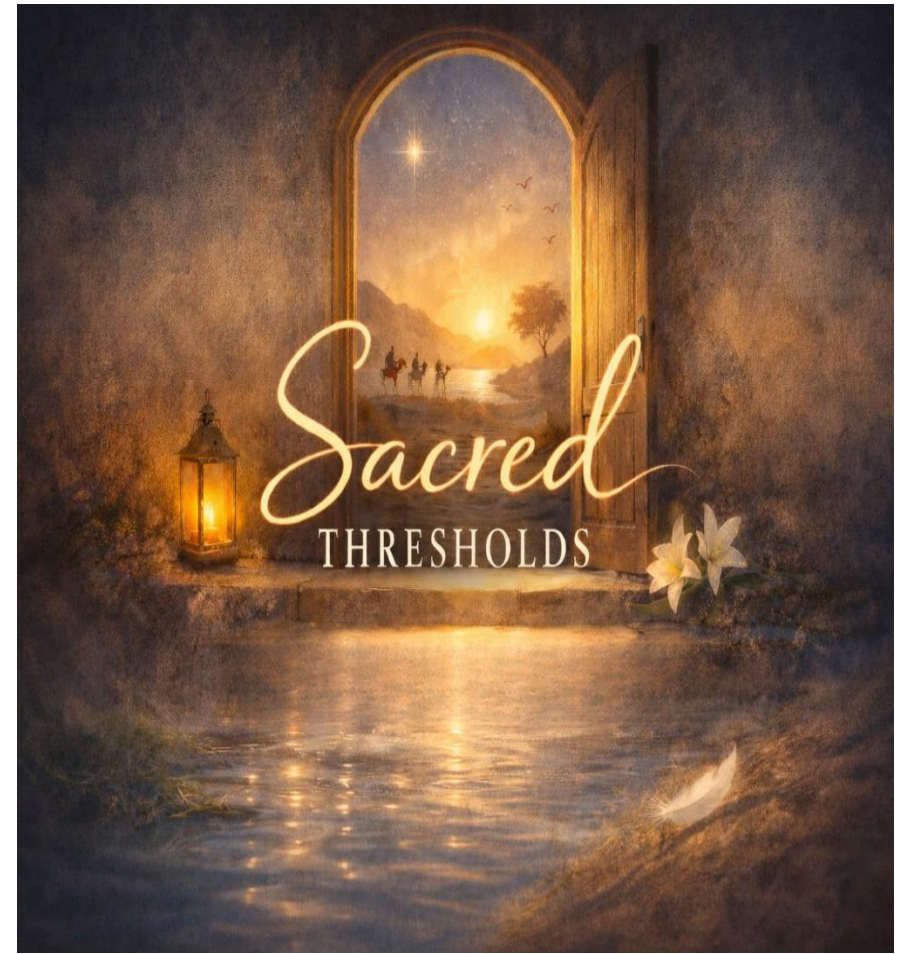
**Our Mission**

We, the people of Riverbend United Church, recognize the dignity, value, and beauty of each and every individual as a beloved child of God.

We seek to grow spiritually, deepening our connections to God and to each other through worship, discussion, reflection, and service.

We embrace the gifts brought by all people of every age, culture, economic background, ethnicity, gender, gender expression, mental and physical ability, and sexual orientation that enrich the life of this faith community.

As followers of Christ, we celebrate the diversity brought by each person who joins us on our journey and shares in our congregational life and work, welcoming their full participation in church membership, leadership, and celebration of life events.



**Riverbend United Church**

Sunday, January 18, 2026  
10:30 a.m.